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AT KINGSTON

KINGSTON ONTARIO CANADA

A

CAVEAT

Againſt concluding this

SESSION

WITH AN

ACT of INDEMNITY.

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A

CAVEAT, &c.

THE Author of all our Diſgraces, —of all our Oppreſſions,—begins to lift up his impious Head:—— Again he ſeems to make a Jeſt of publick Juſtice.——Who could have thought this? The Man who a Year ago was crying out for Mercy:——The Man who was looked upon in the Condition of a Criminal already under Sentence of Death:——That ſuch a Man ſhould in ſo ſhort a Time give himſelf the Airs of the Head and Leader of a Faction!

To ſee ſuch a Monſter of Iniquity and Corruption, not only eſcape capital Puniſhment, but continue in the quiet Poſſeſſion of the Plunder of twenty Years:——No Account rendered:—No Reſtitution made to the Publick.—Inſtead of ſeeing him

 ſtript,

ſtript, degraded, and made a laſting Example to deter all future bad Men from committing the like Crimes, to ſee him go off honoured, rewarded; nay the very inferior Tools and Inſtruments of his wicked Meaſures left hanging upon the Publick, and, like ſo many Leeches ſtill drawing off the Remainder of our vital Spirits, is a Circumſtance that hath made every honeſt Heart in the Nation ſick.

Not to carry this Declamation too far, let us conſider Matters with Temper and Moderation.

We are told, that Things are not ſo bad as they are generally repreſented:—— Some of thoſe in whom we lately placed our greateſt Confidence, aſſure us, That Puniſhment ſtill hangs over this Man,— That if we will but have a little Patience, Vengeance may ſtill overtake him.—— That thoſe who forced him out of Power, have no Tenderneſs either for his Perſon or his Crimes.——That if they did not puſh the late Attempt to bring him to Juſtice, it was becauſe they were morally ſure, it could

could not then ſucceed according to the Expectations of the Publick: That they knew there was a determined Reſolution in a certain Place to protect him; and that therefore they were for deferring the Attack, and like good Soldiers, keeping back their Fire, till they could make Uſe of it to do ſome Execution: That the Chain of Corruption being in the mean Time broke by his Removal from Power, all that the Nation has a juſt Reaſon to expect from the new Miniſters will ſoon be done; and the Conſtitution eaſed of it's Burthen, will be able to work it's own Cure.

All this is ſaid, and I hope, it is all true. I hope, our new Miniſters are not endeavouring to impoſe either upon themſelves, their Friends, or their Country.——It is not our Buſineſs to condemn them as long as there can be Room to hope, that they mean to ſet Things right. ——Not to lay too great a Load therefore upon them, let us acquit them of being as yet criminal, yet ſure it muſt be owned,

that their Conduct hath in ſome Reſpects been a little unfortunate. However, as there is ſtill Room to mend paſt Errors, let us give them ſtill a little Forbearance for the Debts they owe to their Country ; but in the mean Time, they muſt give us Leave to declare our Apprehenſions of what may be the Conſequence of the fatal Reprieve (to call it by no worſe a Name) lately given to this Man.

With Regard to theſe Apprehenſions, I muſt firſt premiſe, that though this Man is removed from Buſineſs, the World cannot be perſuaded, he is removed from Power.——There are but too many diſagreeable Circumſtances in our Affairs, which ſmell ſtrong of his Influence.—— If it be ſo, we may aſſure ourſelves, he will not be content with a bare Reprieve ; for notwithſtanding the ſtrange Power made uſe of to ſtifle and ſuppreſs all Kind of Evidence, ſuch a Load of Guilt has come to Light againſt him, as leaves no Room for Mercy in the Eyes of the People.——Beſides, The Profuſeneſs of his Expence,

pence, the Splendor of his Palaces, and the Magnificence of his Furniture, is a ſufficient Proof of his Plunder.—He was known to be in diſtreſſed Circumſtances when he firſt came into Power.——He has ſince conſtantly lived at a Rate above what his Family Eſtate and the juſt Profits of his Employments could afford; and yet his Domeſticks ſhew you, by Way of Oſtentation, a Gallery in one of his Palaces, with *fourſcore thouſand Pounds*, hung up againſt the Walls.

For theſe Reaſons, He is conſidered already as a Convict:——The People think, that nothing but the Formality of a Trial is wanting to do his Buſineſs.——In ſpight of his affected Tranquillity and natural Impudence his Heart akes, and muſt ake as long as the Sword is kept hanging over his Head.——Is it not natural for him to endeavour to change that uneaſy and dangerous Situation?——Will he not move Heaven and Earth to be ſafe? No doubt he will.——I think therefore, we may expect to ſee one or other of theſe two Things attempted:

attempted: Either that a colluſive Trial will be ſet on Foot, that he may be acquitted by a Farce of Juſtice; or an Act of Indemnity will be brought in.——— Which ever of the two is thought moſt adviſeable, in all Probability, it will be attempted by ſurprize, perhaps towards the latter End of this very Seſſion, when the Departure of the Country Gentlemen (according to their uſual unhappy Cuſtom) leaves the Courtiers Maſters of the Field; by which Means the People are generally awed into a Submiſſion, by the Appearance of a formidable Majority upon every Queſtion.——No Man, therefore, can do a better Piece of Service to his Country, than to alarm his Fellow-Subjects, and put them upon their Guard againſt an Attempt which, if it ſucceeds, will certainly throw us into Confuſion, or put a final End to our Liberties.

If we ſhould be ſo unhappy as to ſee an Attempt of this Nature ſucceed, it muſt be brought about by Means of a Treaty betwixt the Criminal and the new Miniſters,

Miniſters, or by a Treaty betwixt him and the Perſons of whom the Country Party is now compoſed; but whoever they may be that ſhall negotiate with this Man for that Purpoſe, or indeed for any Purpoſe, will be in a Conſpiracy againſt the Liberties of their Country.

In vain will it be for our new Miniſters to urge, that Government is not now carried on by Corruption:——That they intend to keep up no ſtanding Armies in Time of Peace:——That they aſk for no Votes of Credit:——That they ſcreen no publick Thieves:——That they enter into none of thoſe Meaſures to rob the Nation, annually practiſed by the late *Premier*.—— An Act of Indemnity will be productive of all theſe, and much greater Evils.—— They may plead their good Intentions as much as they pleaſe:—— If once they remove the Sword from over this Man's Head, they may depend upon it they never can, from that very Minute, be the Authors of any right Meaſure.——He will not ſuffer them to gain Reputation.

——Do they imagine that he, who would not leave the Appearance of Power, no not ſo much as the vain empty Shadow of Power, to thoſe who were all along ſupporting his deſtructive Meaſures, will be content to ſhare it with thoſe who have been inſtrumental in reducing him to his preſent dangerous Circumſtances?—— Sure no Man can think he will.

As for my Part, when I conſider in what Manner an Indemnity given to this Man muſt affect the new Miniſters themſelves, I ſhould not call them Knaves, ſhould they come into it, becauſe another Name would more properly belong to them. ——If they ſhould be ſeduced to conſent to this Meaſure, upon the Expectation of Favour at Court, there is a Meanneſs in them which I could not ſuſpect.——If they are drawn into it, upon the Promiſe of enjoying what the World thinks they want, that is, the Power of doing ſome Good for their Country, they will be moſt egregiouſly deceived.

Do they fancy that this Man will retire, thanking thoſe that have ſaved him, and think no more of publick Affairs? If they do, they do not know the Man.——— We ſee, that Mens Foibles and Paſſions will enter into Affairs of the greateſt Importance.———There never was a Time when it concerned this Man ſo much, to carry himſelf with Prudence and Caution, as at his going off the Stage, yet nothing could keep him within the Bounds of Diſcretion or common Decency:———His Vanity,—the Inſolence of his Temper,—got the better of him.———When it was his Buſineſs to ſoften the publick Reſentment,———when it was his Intereſt to perſuade the World, he had no Power left, ———we ſaw him, like *Alexander the Great*, parcelling out the Kingdom amongſt his Followers. ——— Royal Favours, which might have been privately granted and accepted, he refuſed; thoſe which he knew would make a *Fracas*, he not only accepted but inſiſted on.———At the very laſt Gaſp of his ſuppoſed expiring Power, what

extravagant Grants to the moſt obnoxious of his Tools!——What ridiculous Honours to ſome whom we know not by what Name to call!——Do we not remember, that the very Day after the laſt Seſſion concluded, when the Report of the ſecret Committee was in every Hand, when the whole Nation was reading an Account of little ſcandalous Robberies committed by him:——Upon that very Day, I ſay, when one would think, he ſhould have ſought out ſome Cave under Ground to have hid his Shame, did he ſhew himſelf at Court, giving himſelf ſuch prepoſterous Airs, as made all thinking Men pity the Weakneſs of his Underſtanding, while thoſe of his Tools who had a Grain of Senſe bluſhed for him.

Theſe Things are mentioned only to ſhew, what is to be expected from him: ——They are brought in to prove, that if we judge by the Nature of the Man, we may depend upon it, he never will quit the Thoughts of Power but with his Life.——I would aſk our new Miniſters,

whether removing his Fears, and placing him in Safety, will cure his Vanity and correct the Inſolence of his Temper?——Sure, they cannot impoſe upon themſelves ſo far as to believe, it can have this Effect. Yes, but ſome People will ſay, that his Gratitude for ſo great a Deliverance, will oblige him to give up every Thing to his Benefactors.——I ſhall take the Liberty of anſwering this with a homely old Proverb, *Save a Thief from the Gallows and he will cut your Throat.*——Can they ſo ſoon forget, that on the very Day when this Reprieve was granted him, were they abuſed by this Man and his ſcribling Tools?——He attacks thoſe very Perſons with Lies and Calumnies to whoſe Lenity it is owing that he lives, and for which they loſt the warm Hearts of moſt of their Countrymen.——Let them take this as a Specimen of his Gratitude.

We know by Experience that this Man will bear no Rival in Power, and that he is full of that Jealouſy, ſo common to weak pretending Men, of hating thoſe who ap-

pear to have ſuperior Abilities: They muſt be Underlings: If they have not, they muſt affect to have a Capacity far inferior to his:——Suppoſe our new Miniſters, after they have ſaved him from that Puniſhment he highly deſerves, and reſtored him to that Power he never did, nor ever can deſerve: I ſay, ſuppoſe our new Miniſters ſhould in this Caſe ſubmit to become the infamous Tools of his future Adminiſtration, they will not be allowed to act even this ſcandalous Part.——An ungrateful Man naturally hates thoſe, who, he knows, may juſtly accuſe him of Ingratitude: He can never be at Eaſe till they are removed out of his Sight; and this our new Miniſters muſt expect, if he ever again mounts the Saddle.

It will be perceived, that I am arguing all this while, as if I took it for granted, that this Man's Reſtoration to Power, muſt be the certain Conſequence of an Act of Indemnity.—I own I am.——I think a Man muſt wilfully ſhut his Eyes againſt the Light that does not ſee it.——Even now,

now, though he ſtands behind the Scene, 'tis plain he directs every Thing upon the Stage.——Two late Promotions manifeſtly ſhew, that his Influence prevails in the Diſpoſal of all Offices, from the higheſt to the loweſt *.——An Act of Indemnity will bring him again upon the Stage, to direct all our Affairs as openly and arbitrarily as before; and when I conſider our preſent Circumſtances, I think, I have Cauſe to apprehend the near Approach of this publick Misfortune.——We ſee the Friends of the Nation divided:——There is no longer the ſame Harmony which drove him from the avowed Poſſeſſion of Power:——Jealouſies and Diſtruſts have got footing amongſt them.——If theſe Things continue, they muſt turn to the Advantage of the common Enemy; and private Animoſity will deſtroy all that hath been done by publick Spirit.

* Mr. *Jones*, whoſe Father is Servant to the Earl of *Orford*. *D. Advertiſer*, *Jan.* 20. Mr. *Hume*, Brother to *Alex. Hume*, Eſq; Petitioner at the late famous *Chippenham* Election. St. *James's* Evening-Poſt, *December* 30.

The

The Nation looked for Relief from the new Miniſters.——Things have not anſwered Expectation, and the People grow out of Humour with them.——They, on the other Side, think themſelves ill uſed: They complain that, inſtead of being aſſiſted and ſupported, they are expoſed, calumniated, weakened, and left to themſelves.——Whither will theſe ill Humours hurry us?—Cannot any Body ſee the Ruin they muſt bring upon us?—— We are giving an Opening to the common Enemy:—We are tempting him to return to his Poſt; and nothing but an Act of Indemnity is wanting, to bring this Plague upon us again, which may ſoon happen, unleſs Providence ſhould interpoſe to heal theſe unhappy Jealouſies.

The new Miniſters complain, that they entered upon publick Buſineſs by the Conſent of the whole Nation; that they took Poſſeſſion of the Government, as a Party that is detached from a grand Army, takes Poſſeſſion of a deſerted Camp, not for themſelves but for the common Cauſe;

but

but that looking about, thinking their Friends were following them, they found themſelves left at the Mercy of the Enemy, by thoſe who had hitherto backed and encouraged them.——From this Time they ſay, they have been pulled to Pieces for not doing that which the Conduct of their own Friends had diſabled them from doing; and that theſe are Cauſes ſufficient for putting them out of Humour.

That the Nation hath been moſt cruelly diſappointed is clear: To whoſe Charge theſe Diſappointments are to be laid, perhaps is not quite ſo clear.——The Friends of the new Miniſters muſt own, that they have ſuffered ſome wrong Things to be done, and that many right Things expected of them are ſtill left undone.——Whether all this be owing to their not being ſupported by their Friends, I will not determine.——But ſuppoſe the People who have ſuffered ſo long, and been ſo cruelly diſappointed, ſhould (for Want of ſeeing the Inſide of Things) ſuſpect thoſe that are not guilty, can this provoke our new Miniſters

niſters to throw off all Concern for the publick Good?——Will they make their diſtreſſed Country feel the Effects of their Reſentment, by a League with it's worſt Enemy?——Would they owe even Power itſelf, however bewitching it may be, to any infamous Bargain with one whom they themſelves have repreſented as a Monſter of Corruption? I cannot think ſo ill of them.

As to the Gentlemen who make up what is now called the Country Party, they ſtill ſit high in the People's Favour.——May they always do ſo.——May there be at all Times a Number of Gentlemen of Fortune ſo happy in their Characters, as to poſſeſs the Hearts of their Countrymen; for ſuch muſt always be a Check upon a corrupt Adminiſtration; and although they ſhould not be ſtrong enough at all Times to do Good, they may prevent Miſchief. ——May they oppoſe every bad Meaſure of the preſent Men in Power, but may neither Spleen nor Revenge carry them ſo far, as to have any Dealings, any Correſpondenee

reſpondence with the common Enemy. ——No Doubt, this Job might be done for him more effectually and more eaſily by them, than by the new Miniſters without them; for whoever they are that are to do it, will have the Honour of the whole Crew of publick Plunderers for Allies and Aſſiſtants.——If ever they ſhould be ſo infatuated as to treat with him, they are loſt to their Country, and muſt expect from that Minute, to become the Objects of univerſal Hatred.

As their whole Conduct hath been remote from private Intereſt, let not Spleen and Revenge againſt the new Miniſters, puſh them upon that which all the Temptations of a Court could never prevail upon them to do.——If the Enemy finds the new Miniſters reſolute to oppoſe him, no doubt but thoſe of the Country Party will be applied to:——All Artifices will be made uſe of to work upon their Paſſions:——It is not to be doubted, but he hath long had ſome concealed Friends amongſt them:——Men who never appeared for

 him,

him, but have all along endeavoured to weaken the Oppoſition, by creating Jealouſies and Diviſions:——Theſe will work for him:——They muſt do it; for he has them by ſcandalous Secrets.——If theſe can inflame the preſent Jealouſy betwixt the new Miniſters and the Country Party:——If they can exaſperate either of theſe Parties to think of Revenge, the Job will be done for him by the other; and then he walks in again, without any farther Trouble.

To the Misfortune of the Nation, his Power hath laſted ſo long, that almoſt every Employment in the three Kingdoms, great and ſmall, hath been filled up by him.——All theſe People will co-operate with either Side for his Return, by Means of a general Indemnity.——The felonious Practices that had crept into every Office, were not ſimply pardoned, they were encouraged and protected.——Many of theſe People have Reaſon to fear, if he is not brought back, not only that they muſt follow him, but that they may ſuffer for

paſt

paſt Sins.——They may apprehend, that as long as Puniſhment hangs over him, ſome farther Villainies may be opened, which it is extremely their Intereſt to prevent.——Beſides theſe, Rogues of all other Denominations, down to thoſe that infeſt the Paſſages of the Play-houſe: In fine, all that can expect Impunity and Indulgence in a looſe, diſorderly, and corrupt Adminiſtration, will be glad to ſee him again in Power.

The Pilfering lately diſcovered in an Office of very high Truſt, has given all publick Pilferers the Alarum.——I wiſh the Indulgence the Offender has met with may not give Encouragement to the Practice for the future.——It is very ſtrange, that a Clerk in an Office ſhould have an Opportunity to pilfer 16,000 *l.* from the Publick, which is ſaid to be the Sum this Clerk is charged with.——It is very ſtrange, he ſhould have continued his felonious Practice for ſo many Years without a Diſcovery.——But it is much more ſtrange, that when a Diſcovery was made,

a Diſmiſſion from his Office ſhould be his only Puniſhment; and that when an Account was deſired, his Superiors ſhould hold themſelves ſatisfied with his anſwering, that he could not, becauſe his Books and Papers had been burnt.——We may now gueſs why a Cart Load of Books and Papers were carried from a certain Office, and made a Bonfire of in the Road to *Hackney*, ſoon after our Affairs in Parliament began laſt Winter to take a new Turn.——If this Clerk had been poor, the Lightneſs of his Puniſhment might have been imputed to Mercy, but as he is rich, Juſtice ſurely required Reſtitution; and Juſtice will prevail if the Patron of publick Plunderers be not reſtored to Power.——This is what they all know, and this will make them all join with any Party in Meaſures for that Purpoſe.

But it is to be hoped, that thoſe who are yet innocent, will conſider well the dangerous Conſequences, both with Reſpect to themſelves and their Country, before they allow themſelves to be tempted

to join in any ſuch Meaſure.——The whole People united againſt this Man and his Accomplices, becauſe they ſee plainly that the State muſt periſh in the Hands of one who has no Abilities to govern, nor any one Art of Government except that of Corruption alone.——If the evil Genius of *England* ſhould bring him again upon the Stage, it is eaſy to foreſee, that Confuſion or Slavery muſt follow.——He and his new as well as old Confederates may flatter themſelves, that as the Nation bore him ſo long, it will bear him again; but before they are ſure of this, let them diſtinguiſh betwixt our different Circumſtances.

When this Man was before in Power, the People ſaw an Oppoſition well conducted, from whence they expected Relief: ——They were kept in continual Hopes of ſeeing an End of their Grievances, and of having the Author of them puniſhed, without being obliged to have Recourſe to violent Methods. But theſe Hopes will be no more, when they find a Door opened for bringing him in again upon them:——

A Door,

A Door, I ſay, opened by thoſe whom the People truſted to keep him out:——When they ſee Men ſeduced, by the Love of Power, or to gratify Spleen and Malice, from the Purſuit of publick Good, and tempted to join in ſaving their worſt Enemy, they will truſt no more to Parliaments, and Neceſſity will force them to take Care of themſelves; for I may venture to propheſy, that the Nation will never bear to be trampled under the Feet of a Man, ſaved from the Gallows by an Act of Indemnity.

I know many have a Notion, that the People have been ſo long oppreſſed and daunted with Taxes and ſtanding Armies, that they have loſt all Courage, that there is no ſuch Thing as a military Spirit left amongſt them, and that there is therefore no Fear of their having Recourſe to Arms.——This is an Opinion that hath long prevailed:——It is what encouraged ſome abandoned Men to ſupport the late Miniſter in all his wicked Meaſures:——It was this Opinion that made them venture to follow him

him through all his dirty Ways.——They thought they were in no Danger from any violent Methods, and as they ſuppoſed the Majority of the Nation as abandoned as themſelves, they thought they were in no Danger from any Legal.——In the latter of theſe two Opinions they have found themſelves miſtaken; and ſhould all Hopes of legal Relief be put an End to, they may find themſelves as much miſtaken in the former.

I have already ſhewn the Difference of our Circumſtances when this Man was laſt in Power, from what they will be ſhould he ever return.——I may ſtrengthen what I have ſaid upon that Subject by the Obſervation of a wiſe Man, *That when a People who have been long oppreſſed, are put in Hopes of Relief, and are diſappointed, their Deſpair always takes a violent Turn.*—— There are Examples of this in many Countries.——The People will no Doubt bear a great deal; but there are Bounds beyond which Patience will not go; and that is when they find, they can expect no Relief

from

from the Laws or Conſtitution of their Country.

But ſuppoſe the People ſhould be kept in Subjection, and this Man ſupported in his recovered Power, by a corrupt Parliament and a numerous mercenary Army, will he not then be *able*, and no Man, I believe, doubts his *Will*, to deſtroy our Liberties as effectually as Cardinal *Mazarin* did the *French*.——The Circumſtances of *France*, and the laſt Struggles made by the People for their Liberties during the Adminiſtration of that weak and wicked Prime Miniſter, ſo nearly reſemble the preſent Circumſtances of this Nation, that I cannot conclude this Caveat better than by giving a ſhort Account of that Piece of Hiſtory.

It is very remarkable, that the firſt Thing which raiſed the Indignation of the People againſt that blundering Miniſter, was an *Exciſe-Scheme*. The Liberties of the Nation had been in a great Meaſure ſuppreſſed by the former Miniſter:—— The People were in a Sort of Lethargy: The Parliament, at the Deſire of the Court, had

had paſſed many Laws deſtructive not only to private People but to the Publick ; —— and the Miniſters were ſo abandoned as to declare openly, *That Honeſty was fit only for Tradeſmen, and not to be thought of in any Affairs relating to the Publick* ; upon which the famous Cardinal *de Retz* makes this Remark, *That when Governors loſe all Shame, the Governed loſe all Reſpect, and it is uſually at ſuch a Time as this that the People recover of their Lethargy by falling into Convulſions.*——Theſe were the Circumſtances of *France* in the Year 1647, when an Edict was ſent to be regiſtred, that is to ſay, paſſed in Parliament, for laying an *Exciſe* upon all Proviſions brought into the City of *Paris*.——The Parliament, which for ſeveral Years had done every Thing the Court bid them, refuſed to paſs this Edict ; ſo that the Court was obliged to drop it, and to give over levying the *Exciſe* propoſed.——This began a Diſpute between the Court and Parliament, which at laſt produced a Sort of Civil War, commonly called the *Barricades of Paris*.

Though the Court had a numerous Army at it's Command :——Though that Army had juſt obtained a notable Victory over the *Spaniards* in *Flanders*, and was commanded by one of the greateſt Generals of the Age, I mean the Prince of *Condé*; yet all this could not ſo terrify the People as to prevent their flying to Arms, when they found that nothing elſe would do; and the Miniſter might, perhaps, then have been ſacrificed, but he was ſaved at that Time by the Diviſions among the Chiefs of the People, and the Conduct of the Prince of *Condé*.——Did he alter his Meaſures, or ſhew any Gratitude to the Prince? So far otherwiſe, that in leſs than a Year he got both the Prince and his Brother committed to Priſon; and he continued to incenſe the Parliament and provoke the People as much as ever: He had the Cardinal *de Retz*, and ſome others, accuſed of treaſonable Practices, and proſecuted in Parliament upon the Evidence of falſe and ſuborned Witneſſes; and he neglected the Proſecution of the War then carrying on againſt *Spain*. By

By theſe Meaſures, and by his ingroſſing ſo entirely the Ear of the Queen Regent, he united all Parties againſt him. Even the Duke of *Orleans*, firſt Prince of the Blood, and preſumptive Heir of the Crown, declared openly againſt him; and though the Miniſter ſet all his Engines to work, in order to regain the Duke, he could not prevail; but on the contrary, his Royal Highneſs, by the Advice of the Parliament, returned for Anſwer to the Queen Regent, who had ſent to invite him to Court, *that he would wait on her in the moſt dutiful Manner, as ſoon as the Princes were at Liberty, and the Cardinal removed from the King's Preſence and from his Councils*; and the very ſame Day the Parliament voted, almoſt unanimouſly, an Addreſs to the King, praying, *that he would order the Princes to be ſet at Liberty, and that he would remove Cardinal* Mazarin *from his Councils and Preſence*; for the Parliament of *Paris* did not, it ſeems, think, that it was neceſſary to have a Proof of any Crime, as a Foundation for ſuch an Addreſs.

This came like a Thunder-clap upon the Miniſter.———Upon this he quite loſt his Courage, and though he got the Queen to return a haughty Anſwer to the Parliament, yet that very Night he ſtole out of *Paris* in Diſguiſe, without taking the Queen Regent or the young King along with him.———But as he retired only to St. *Germains*, the Parliament ſoon after iſſued an Arret, by which *he was ordered to depart the Kingdom and all the Places under his Majeſty's Dominion, in fifteen Days, with all his Relations and Domeſtick Servants that were Foreigners; or in Default thereof, to be proceeded againſt as Criminals, with Leave to all his Majeſty's Subjects to attack and deſtroy them.* In Obedience to this the Cardinal departed the Kingdom, and the Princes being ſet at Liberty, they came to *Paris*, and took their Seats in Parliament as uſual.

Thus one would think, that the Country Party in *France* had got a complete Victory, and that the Liberties of the Nation would conſequently be ſecured upon a ſolid

ſolid and laſting Foundation. ——— But alas! They had done their Buſineſs but by halves.———They had removed the Miniſter: ——— They had even baniſhed him out of the Kingdom: ——— Nay farther, they had ſet a Price upon his Head, if he ever returned: ——— But his Creatures and Tools ſtill remained in moſt of the publick Employments, eſpecially at Court, by which Means the Cardinal, though he was 300 Miles diſtant, directed all the Affairs of the Nation; for nothing of Importance was reſolved on by the Queen and her ſelect Council, till a Courier was ſent to the Cardinal for his Advice. ——— The Princes and Parliament ſoon became ſenſible of this.——— The Queen Regent continued obſtinate;——— The two Parties in the Oppoſition, inſtead of joining in Meaſures for overcoming her Obſtinacy, rather confirmed her in it, by entering ſeparately into Negotiations with her. ——— And this revived again the Flames of a Civil War, which became much more general and bloody

bloody than it had been before.——In this War the Princes of the Blood, the Parliament, and a great Majority of the People, were united againſt the Court; and the Diſcontents of the People were very much aggravated by the Cardinal's being called back to Court, and re-inſtated in his former Poſt, even during the Continuance of the War.—— In theſe Circumſtances one would imagine, that the Country-Party might eaſily have got the better; but as this Party conſiſted of two diſtinct Parties, to wit, that of the Duke of *Orleans*, and that of the Prince of *Condé*, the Miniſter craftily applied to them ſeparately for an Accommodation, and both were unluckily caught in the Snare.—— By this Means he ſowed Jealouſies and Diſtruſts between them, ſo that they could never heartily join in any Meaſures even for their own Safety, much leſs for the Safety of their Country, and the Party at laſt dwindled away to nothing.——The Court returned triumphantly to *Paris*, got quiet Poſſeſſion of the whole Kingdom, without

without having ever gained one remarkable Victory by their Arms, or agreeing to any Terms, either for ſecuring the Liberties of the People, or indemnifying thoſe that had taken Arms in their Defence.

The Miniſter being thus reſtored to the full Poſſeſſion of his Power, began then to ſhew the Inſolence of his Temper:—— The Prince of *Condé* had taken Care to retire in Time, but the very next Day after the Court's Return, the Duke of *Orleans* was baniſhed to *Limours*, and no leſs than twelve Members of Parliament were baniſhed from *Paris*; and though the Queen owned that her Return to *Paris* was very much owing to the Cardinal *de Retz*, yet he was ſoon after taken up and impriſoned, from whence he at laſt made his Eſcape, and retired to *Rome*.——The royal Authority was then raiſed to it's higheſt Pinnacle:——The Parliament was forbid to meddle with any Matters of State;——and ever ſince, it has been obliged to paſs all ſuch Laws as are ſent thither by the King. Theſe were the Misfortunes

which the Country Party brought upon themſelves and their Country, by their Jealouſies and Diviſions, and by entering into ſeparate Negotiations with the Miniſter.——This fatal Cataſtrophe was owing to a Want of publick Spirit in the Chiefs of both the Parties oppoſite to the Court.——They had all a Hatred to the Miniſter; but none of them had ſuch a true Love for their Country as to ſacrifice their own private Views to the Re-eſtabliſhment of it's Liberties.——For this Purpoſe, it was certainly neceſſary to have convoked a general Aſſembly of the States of the Kingdom, in order, by their Authority, to have ſuch Regulations eſtabliſhed as were neceſſary for limiting the Power of the Crown, and ſettling the publick Liberty upon a ſolid and impenetrable Foundation.——But this the Leaders of both Parties were averſe to, for private Reaſons of their own.——The Princes of the Blood were againſt it; becauſe they thought, a Diminution of the royal Power would diminiſh their Splendor and

Influ-

Influence:——The Parliament were againſt it; becauſe they thought, ſuch an Aſſembly regularly eſtabliſhed, would derogate from their Dignity and Authority; ——and the Cardinal *de Retz* was againſt it; becauſe he had probably a View of ſucceeding to be Prime Miniſter, in Caſe of *Mazarin*'s Death; for though he refuſed that Poſt when it was offered him by the Queen, during the Cardinal's Baniſhment, it was not, becauſe he did not long for it: ——He himſelf gives another very ſubſtantial Reaſon: *Royal Favour*, ſays he, *is never to be played with. One cannot embrace it too cloſely if it be real, nor keep too far off from it if it be diſſembled.*

Thus the general Intereſt of the Country was ſacrificed to the particular Views of the ſeveral Leaders; and the Noblemen and Gentlemen of each Party, ſought only how they might moſt ſucceſsfully promote their private Intereſt.——By this the Liberties of *France* were overturned,——the Leaders of both the Parties in Oppoſition to the Court ſacrificed,——and the moſt hateful

all Miniſters reſtored to Power.——The Effect will be the ſame in this Country, if private Views, either of Ambition, Intereſt, or Reſentment, be allowed to prevail over the Publick; therefore, I hope, every Man who is not reſolved to be the Slave or Tool of a Prime Miniſter, will unite in oppoſing an Act of Indemnity during this Seſſion, to the End, that in the next Seſſion, they may all unite in proper Methods for obtaining publick Juſtice, and ſecuring publick Liberty.

FINIS.